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U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Extension Service

SUPERVISORY OUTLINE  
FOR  
DISCUSSING 4-H POSTWAR PLANNING  
WORK WITH STATES

Organization lays groundwork for program

A group invited by H. W. Hochbaum, Chief, Division of Field Coordination, Extension Service, USDA, including two State 4-H leaders for each extension region, two county extension workers, and five Federal extension workers in 4-H club work, designated the NATIONAL ADVISORY GROUP ON 4-H POSTWAR PROGRAMS, held two conferences and outlined the broad framework and scope of the program for youth through 4-H work.

The tentative program was presented to the 4-H subcommittee of the Committee on Extension Organization and Policy and a final report will be made to it in December.

The 4-H post-war program will be the basis for delegates discussion at the 1945 National 4-H Club Congress and also the State leaders' sessions.

Purpose of the report of the Committee

First:

To chart the course for future 4-H programs by

- A) Analyzing the larger problems ahead in terms of their effect on youth and what youth can do about them.
- B) Developing a set of guiding principles in program building and organization for use by counties and States.

Second:

To show how all youth can be mobilized to attack postwar problems and, by doing something about them, help to contribute to the building and maintenance of peace as they have so effectively done in winning the war.

Third:

Define the scope of the 4-H program in 10 broad categories.

The suggestions offered have worked somehow, somewhere some time. HOW WELL THE NEW EMPHASIS FINDS EXPRESSION IN TERMS OF HELPING YOUTH FACE THEIR FUTURE THROUGH THE 4-H PROGRAM WILL DEPEND ON HOW WELL STATE AND COUNTY PEOPLE INTERESTED IN 4-H WORK PLAN ON THE BASIS OF THE PROBLEMS AFFECTING THEIR WELL BEING, AND THUS HELP TO MOBILIZE YOUTH TO MEET THEM. These materials developed as a result of the work of the group, are intended to offer suggestions on how this may be done.

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Problems considered were those which confront rural people relating to -

1. Farm income
2. Family food supply
3. Health, nutrition and safety
4. Rural education, both formal and out of school
5. Farm tenure: (a) as owner; (b) as tenant
6. Housing and home improvement needs
7. Agricultural production adjustments: (a) production; (b) marketing; (c) distribution
8. Rural family living and recreation
9. Conservation of land, water and forests
10. Rural public policy making
11. Youth migration - vocational guidance - the church

The National Advisory group attempted to answer the questions (a) How do these problems affect youth? (b) How can youth be mobilized to do something about them? (c) What changes, adjustments, or new approaches are needed in the 4-H program for all youth?

Source of materials from which background material was used.

Report of the committee on postwar agricultural policy of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges (often called the Noble Clark report)

Report of the White House Conference on Rural Education, held in Washington, D. C., in 1944.

Report of the Outlook Conference, Washington, D. C., 1944

Report on Wartime Family Living, USDA

Materials from members' discussions, National 4-H Club Congress, 1944

Annual reports of State and county cooperative extension workers

Suggested guideposts for the 4-H program -

Out of the deliberations have grown 10 guideposts for 4-H programs as follows:

TO HELP PREPARE TOMORROW'S CITIZENS PHYSICALLY, MENTALLY AND SPIRITUALLY, 4-H CLUB WORK PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION IN PROGRAMS BUILT ON NEEDS AND INTERESTS, THROUGH WHICH YOUTH ARE:

- I. DEVELOPING TALENTS FOR GREATER USEFULNESS
- II. JOINING WITH FRIENDS FOR WORK, FUN AND FELLOWSHIP
- III. LEARNING TO LIVE IN A CHANGING WORLD
- IV. CHOOSING A WAY TO EARN A LIVING
- V. PRODUCING FOOD AND FIBER FOR HOME AND MARKET
- VI. CREATING BETTER HOME FOR BETTER LIVING
- VII. CONSERVING NATURE'S RESOURCES FOR SECURITY AND HAPPINESS
- VIII. BUILDING HEALTH FOR A STRONG AMERICA
- IX. SHARING RESPONSIBILITIES FOR COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT
- X. SERVING AS CITIZENS IN MAINTAINING WORLD PEACE

Organization

The report makes many suggestions relative to organization and method. Among them are:

1. Need to develop graded programs based on needs, age, experience, etc.
2. More methods beside the project.
3. Programs on State and county levels be based on solving some of the major basic problems.

Example: Health

- (1) Improvement of individual health
- (2) Disease education
- (3) Community health work
4. Local clubs should spring from and be a part of the community
5. Broad definition of the project
6. Special programs for all the 15- to 21-year olds
7. Provide broad base for recognition and awards
8. Goal of 3,200,000 members by 1950 or about 35% of the available number
9. Improved methods of selecting, use and training of more volunteer leaders

Timing

The national program will be launched at the 1945 National 4-H Club Congress, December 3.

Support of program under preparation from Federal Extension Service

Cooperation with national agencies interested in helping rural youth through correlated programs, such as the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work.

Cooperation with magazine, newspaper, and farm paper editors and writers in explaining the program and reporting progress on local developments.

Cooperation with radio - through network programs highlighting 4-H program guideposts; through information to farm program directors at radio stations; through USDA transcription service to 370 radio stations; through the USDA radio script service.

Publications:

- Program planning guide for extension agents
- Report of the National Advisory Group for State Leaders (multilithed) and an abbreviated report for county use
- Pictorial booklet illustrating 4-H activities under the 10 guideposts for popular use
- Information kit of suggestions for use of State extension staff and county extension agents, including suggestions for circular letters, news stories, radio talks, window displays, etc.
- Information kit for writers, etc.

Steps that can be taken in the States

1. Appoint a committee of the State staff to analyze:

- (a) State problems
- (b) What youth can do
- (c) How 4-H club work can help
- (d) Adjustments need in present program
- (e) Make plans for young people and leaders to plan broad county programs in keeping with the new scope of the 4-H program.

2. Develop materials and informational support.

Assistance to States for program building

Through the 4-H regional staff members of the Division of Field Coordination, assistance will be available for 4-H program building and planning conferences.